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Release

TO : The Secretary  
THROUGH : S/S  
FROM : INR - Roger Hillman

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INTELLIGENCE NOTE: MOSCOW REITERATES MAXIMUM BERLIN POSITION

Israttira's authoritative commentator, Polyanov, today restates the USSR's position on Berlin, according to the TASS summary of the article. (The full text is not yet available.)

Adenauer Attacked. Like other recent Soviet comment, Polyanov takes Adenauer with seeking to torpedo progress in Berlin negotiations. Polyanov implies, as Khrushchev and Gromyko did in their recent pronouncements, that an element of "common sense" had become evident in the US position; he proceeds, however, to attack the proposal for an access authority as lately aired in the Western press and by Adenauer.

Access Authority. Polyanov rejects two specific elements of the proposal: (1) that it would control and "all but own" the communication routes to Berlin, and (2) that West Germany would be a part of it. He then repeats the Communist proposal for an arbitral body, without apparently detailing its functions and composition, stipulating that its establishment requires withdrawal of Western occupation troops and liquidation of the Berlin occupation regime.

No Direct Attack on US. From the available text, it appears Polyanov does not directly question US willingness to negotiate and he states there is an open door to an agreement which does not infringe GDR interests." In sum, the article leaves the Soviet position where it has been, fails to indicate potential lines of flexibility in that position, but reflects readiness to continue negotiations.

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